

1829

ap. 11. 1855

To *Jonathan French* Jr. of the Class that graduated at Union College, in the year 1829
(or, if deceased, to the friend or relative who knew him best :)

SIR,—

It is the aim of the subscriber, in collecting the information asked for, by the following questions, to obtain materials for a concise Biographical Catalogue of the Trustees, Presidents, Professors and Tutors of Union College;—of those who have received Honorary Degrees from it, and of all who have ever entered that Institution, whether Graduates or not.

That such a work would be interesting and useful to the Alumni, will not be denied; but whether it be practicable, will depend chiefly upon the ready aid which they shall impart. This circular will be sent to every Graduate whose residence is known, (or, if deceased, to some near connection,) and it is confidently expected that no one will neglect to return it in due time, with as full information as circumstances will allow:—some of the questions, indeed, it may not be possible to answer with certainty; others not at all: still, it is hoped that no important facts will be withheld because of their fewness.

Death has removed the twenty-four original Trustees, the first three Presidents, the early Professors and Tutors, and from eight hundred to one thousand of the Alumni of the College. Doubtless their friends and descendants will cheerfully contribute such information as may be necessary to illustrate the lives and services of the departed.

The subscriber desires every aid that may help to throw light upon the personal history of those concerned:—Obituary Notices; Biographical Sketches, Epitaphs, Funeral Sermons, Newspaper Notices of election to important offices or stations, Business Cards and Advertisements; also, copies of their Literary Works, Addresses, Sermons, Essays, Newspapers, engraved Portraits, &c.; all of which will be deposited and preserved in an Alcove of the College Library, to be set apart for "Graduates' Works."

He also requests that all future changes affecting the answers which shall be given, be made known to him from time to time:—especially the deaths of Graduates, and that the usual obituary notices or funeral sermons published on such occasions, be sent with the announcements, as it is his purpose to publish these deaths hereafter once a year.

JONATHAN PEARSON, *Librarian.*

UNION COLLEGE,
SCHENECTADY, N. Y. }

SPECIMENS OF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES FOR THE PROPOSED CATALOGUE.

John Glidden Brown was born in Quinipeck, N. Y., May 2, 1800; parents, James and Elizabeth (Glidden) Brown, who moved to Epsom, N. Y., in 1806. He was prepared for College at Helderbergh High School, under the instruction of Rev. Moses Johnson, and entered Union College Jan. 1817. He studied law with Hon. Septimus H. Smith, of Great Falls; was admitted to the bar in 1821; and commenced the practice of law in Albany, with James S. Van Hoesen, Esq. In 1830 he moved to New-York City, which, thereafter, became his residence. He was Member of N. Y. Assembly 1832-5; State Senator 1836-8; Member of Congress 1839-41; and Judge of the Superior Court 1842-6. He died June 30, 1849, of cholera, aged 49 years. Besides occasional speeches, orations and opinions, he wrote a work on constitutional law, and edited the N. Y. State Papers. He received the Degree of L. L. D. from Hamilton College in 1846.

Joseph Henshaw Luther was born in Hanover, Mass., June 1, 1798; parents, Joseph and Madeline (Henshaw) Luther; prepared for College at Yorkville Academy, John Almy, Esq., Principal; and entered Union College Sept. 1814. He taught, 1818-20, in East Philadelphia, (Penn.) High School; graduated at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1823; and was ordained Sept. 25, 1823, at Marbletown, N. Y.; and was Pastor of the Presbyterian Church till 1825. He was Pastor of the 1st Congregational Church of Haselton, Conn., 1825-30; Professor of Rhetoric in Erie College 1831-40; retired on account of ill health, and now resides in Philadelphia, Pa. He has published six sermons on various occasions; a series of lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres, and the "Communicant's Companion." He received the Degree of D. D. from the Hudson University in 1842.

Thomas Pennington Radway was born Feb. 23, 1778, in Benton, N. Y.; parents, John Harmony and Mary (Pennington) Radway; was prepared for College at High Holme School, Rev. Hanover Kelton, Principal; entered Union College Sept. 1795; taught a few months in Suncook, Mass., in 1799; studied medicine with Dr. Jonas Physic and Dr. Abram Potecar, of Camernile; attended medical lectures at the College of Surgeons and Physicians, and was admitted to, and commenced the practice of medicine in La Rhine, in 1806. He was Surgeon in the Army 1813-15, and returned to practice at Oldbury in 1815, where he has since resided. He lectured in the Fairhaven Medical School on Anatomy and Physiology, 1830-5, and has published several articles in the New-York Medical Review, and two larger works on the "Functions of the Brain," and on "Gunshot Wounds."

- N. B. 1. Let the answers to the following questions be as full and *authentic* as possible; but when doubtful let them be marked thus (?).
2. When the person is deceased let some near relative or friend fill out the blanks to the best of his knowledge; if he have but *one fact*, let that be sent.
3. Let as much time be taken as may be found necessary for this purpose, and no more.
4. In case this sheet be not sufficient to contain all the facts to be sent, add another of the *same size*, if possible, leaving an inner margin of not less than one inch for binding.
5. In cases where no answers to this circular shall be returned, the editor will be obliged to publish such names without any biographical notices, or to rely upon information, gathered from other sources, and, therefore, not always authentic.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE FOREGOING SKETCHES.

- I. Name. *Jonathan French Jr*
[Let this be written plainly and the middle names in full.]
- II. Names of both Parents; thus:— *Rev Jonathan French (D.D.) & Mrs Rebecca French*
[John and Elizabeth (Smith) Johnson.] *Son of Rev French of Andover Mass. sister of the late Prof. Farrar of Cambridge*
- III. Birth Place. *North-Hampton N. H.* Birth Day and Year. *13th Dec. 1805*
- IV. Various residences and dates; thus:— *Four years in Canada & several years in the vicinity of Boston*
[Pittsfield, Mass., 1814-24; Albany, N. Y., 1824-30; New-York City, 1830-54.] *now principal of a High School in Manchester Mass.*
- V. At what Academy or Academies prepared for College, with Principals and dates; thus:— *Andover Academy*
[Albany Academy, Benjamin Allen, L. L. D., 1815-17.] *John Adams, principal*
- VI. At what College he graduated, and when. *Left College sometime previous to the commencement at Union to teach a private school and while thus engaged had the offer of one of the annual orations.*
- VII. The occupation he followed after leaving college before studying his profession; thus:—
[Teaching, Washington, D. C., 1847-48, or Merchant's Clerk, New-York City, 1849-51.]
- VIII. The profession he studied; where; with whom; when; thus:—
[Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, 1822-5 or Law in Albany, N. Y., with Hon. Harmanus Bleecker, 1840-2.]
- IX. Where he has practised his profession, with dates; and in case he be a clergyman, mention the denomination to which he belongs; thus:—
[Epis., Somerville, N. J., 1827-30; Pres., Albany, N. Y., 1830-5; New-York City, 1835-54.]
- X. The other occupations he has followed; when and where; thus:—
[Merchant, Rochester, N. Y., 1829-35; or Farmer, Geneseo, N. Y., 1835-54; or Manufacturer, Schenectady, N. Y., 1841-48; or Professor, teacher, banker, editor, &c.]

XI. The important offices he has held, with dates; thus:—

[Surrogate of Jefferson Co., N. Y., 1839-41 and 1845-7; Member of Congress, 21st district, N. Y., 1841-43; Member of Assembly, of N. Y., 1821-4, &c., &c.]

XII. The Literary or Scientific Works he has written or edited.

[Copies are solicited for the "Graduates Alcove" in College Library.]

XIII. The names of his relatives who graduated at Union College.

XIV. The literary, professional, or honorary titles he received; from whence, with dates; thus:—

[M. D., from Albany Medical College 1845; or L. L. D., Amherst College, 1850, &c.]

XV. Is there an engraved portrait of him?

[One or two copies, together with his autograph, are solicited for College Library.]

XVI. The date, circumstances, and place of his death.

[Send any printed notice, biographical sketch, funeral sermon, &c. In many instances more space will be required to answer this and the three following questions, in which case add an additional sheet.]

XVII. General information respecting character, services, success, interesting passages and events in his life, &c.

XVIII. Some account of his pedigree and family; its original seat in this or the old country, &c., &c. In a collection of American epitaphs and inscriptions with occasional notes by Rev. Timothy Alden is a notice of Rev. Jonathan French of Andover ^{Mass.} my grandfather who was descended from the early pilgrims John & Grace French and on the maternal line from John Alden. Probably from ^{Rev. Dr. Fiske} the theological school of young gentlemen arose the Theological Seminary of at Andover. The French family originally came to England from Normandy.

An account of my mother's family is found in a notice of Prof. Farrar by Prof. Palfrey. ~~The~~ The Farrar family descended from the martyr Bishop Farrar. Judge Farrar of Hollis N.H. an uncle of my mother lived to the advanced age of one hundred and ~~three~~ ^{one}. Hon. Samuel Hoar of Concord Mass. is her cousin. In Braintree Mass. is the homestead of the French family and in Lincoln Mass. of the Farrar family.

XIX. List of such graduates as may not be widely known; their residences, professions, dates of deaths, &c.; the name and residence, also, of some near friend of the deceased, that further information may be sought for; thus:—

[John Orton Smith, Banker, Chicopee, Mass., died 1848. His brother, Joseph H. Smith, resides in Springfield, Mass.]

CLASS OF 1829

JONATHAN FRENCH, Jr.

In 1855, Latin appears as an "extra" study in the High school course (of the Manchester, Mass., High School). Jonathan French, Jr., was the teacher.

Mr. French is remembered by his pupils as a teacher who was qualified to fit scholars for college, and who could teach any boy or girl who cared to learn. Virgil was his favorite author, and he carried one class through the Aeneid. Mr. French employed assistants, among them a French teacher, at his own charges, the school at times numbering 80 pupils and over. This was about the high water mark in the history of the high school. Under Mr. French music received more attention and became a feature of the school.

History of the Town of Manchester, Mass. p. 211
Rev. D. F. Lamson
1895.

JONATHAN FRENCH, 1829, of Northampton, N.H., was a member of the Adelpic Society.
Adelpic Catalogue 1830

Jonathan French, Jr. A.B. 1829

the Adelpic Society.

Jonathan French, Jr. 1829
A.B.